

Broadband Committee Minutes August 2020

Late July, Lou Alvarez and I discussed forming a town committee on broadband with Scott Butcher

Concept taken to NI selectmen and approval was given to form a committee

Reached out to Peterborough, Jaffery, and Rindge town administrators

- Issues similar in nature...all willing to share approaches the towns are pursuing

- Received a detailed e-mail from Rindge (attached)

Developed a short list of concerns and e-mailed along to Mr. Butcher. The key points included:

Can we have a web page on the town's home page?

- Can we use the town hall offices to host meetings

- What are your thoughts on establishing a communication district?

- If we are dialoguing with the Mascenic School District...it's implied we'll be reaching out to Greenville...is the intent of the Selectmen?

- Can we expand our committee?

- We've gained a school board representative

- Three people working this issue appears insufficient & we'd like to create two additional seats (one for an IT expert & a representative from Greenville)

- Will we have access to legal council?

- Can we get a copy of the earlier survey done by the town's ISP provider, which determined their customer base? I believe this was based on a cluster principle that leaves the remote residents at a serious disadvantage.

- Based on similar actions in surrounding towns ... this is going to take us time ... Rindge hopped on board a similar initiative & it took two years to bear fruit

Mr. Butcher recommended we meet face-to-face to discuss issues in more detail

Reviewed the [draft version of the Monadnock Broadband Implementation Guide](#).

- Guide discusses steps a community might consider before selecting a particular implementation strategy

- No written comments submitted but spoke with Todd Former regarding an implementation strategy specifically developing an approach which address immediate and mid-term strategies (highlights include; T-Mobile devices available to students via Macsenic school system letter and requesting COMCAST regional survey of BB via New Ipswich Administrator letter to COMCAST provider and examined way to gain town people feedback)

- Mr. Mike Judge from Mason's Planning Board, reached out to offer his assistance.

- Highlights included; possibility of capturing State funds under the CARE act, using SB-170 RFI request to determine strengths/weakness of broadband in community and a methodology to capture town's people impressions on Broad Band service)

Lou Alvarez, Richard Smeeth Aug Highlights of New Ipswich Broad Band Committee 10 Sept 2020